



***MINNESOTA ASSOCIATION  
OF WORKFORCE BOARDS***

2024 Promising Practice Award Winner

*Anoka County  
Economic & Workforce Development  
Summit*



# Anoka County – Economic & Workforce Development Summit

## Project Overview

- May 8<sup>th</sup> – 9 am to Noon, networking 12 pm – 1pm  
Bunker Hills Activity Center.
- Focused on growing talent and learn about diversity, equity, and inclusion (plus accessibility).
- Purpose supported business connections to workforce supports.
- Goals included sharing DEI resources and supports to build strong communities by providing opportunities for all to prosper.
- Pre-event survey.

## Key Features

- Co-hosted by Economic Development and Workforce Development
- Diverse Presentations
  - Allina Health
  - nVent
  - Minnesota Chamber Foundation
  - DEED – Employer Reasonable Accommodation Fund (ERAF) Project
  - Workforce Solutions
  - Economic Development Supports
- 12 exhibitors
- 130 attendees





# ANOKA COUNTY ECONOMIC & WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT SUMMIT



WEDNESDAY, MAY 8 | 9:00AM – 12:00PM

Grow and attract talent in 2024!  
Join fellow business leaders in  
Anoka County to learn about  
diversity, equity, and inclusion.

Hosted by:



## AGENDA

### 8:30 - 8:55 Check-In, Breakfast & Networking

- 9:00 – 9:15 Welcome – Greg Frahm-Gilles & Nicole Swanson  
Anoka County Regional Economic Development (ACRED) Overview
- 9:15 – 9:35 Anoka County's Workforce – Tim O'Neill
- 9:35 – 10:35 Featured Topic – Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion  
MN Chamber – Introduce DEI Playbook, Whitney Harvey  
Local Examples of Great DEI Initiatives  
- Allina Health DEI Strategies – Michael Johnston  
- nVent Inclusion and Diversity Strategic Pillars – Morgan Ringdahl & Jessica Crnobrna  
Moderated Panel by Whitney with Allina and nVent
- 10:35 – 10:50 Break
- 10:50 – 11:00 Local Workforce Solutions – Matt Derosier
- 11:00 – 11:05 The Hiring Chain (video) – Performed by Sting (intro to accessibility to DEI)
- 11:05 – 11:20 Employer Reasonable Accommodation Fund (ERAF) – Ray McCoy
- 11:20 – 11:45 World Café Activity – Greg Frahm-Gilles & Nicole Swanson
- 11:45 Closing – Greg Frahm-Gilles & Nicole Swanson
- 12:00 – 1:00 Networking Social and Light Snacks

Presentations by:



Sponsored by:



Greg Frahm-Gilles, Department Director  
Anoka County Economic Development  
[Gregory.Frahm-Gilles@anokacountymn.gov](mailto:Gregory.Frahm-Gilles@anokacountymn.gov)  
763-324-4609

Nicole Swanson, Department Director  
Anoka County Job Training Center  
[Nicole.Swanson@anokacountymn.gov](mailto:Nicole.Swanson@anokacountymn.gov)  
763-324-2313

## Interactive Event

- World Café Activity
  - Level of Commitment
  - Assess your Organization
  - Sustaining DEI Efforts
- Utilized Live Polling
  - 98% learned something new
  - 93 % have increased interest to start/expand DEI initiatives
  - 89% know where to find related resources to support their DEI work
- 2025 Event

Join <https://slideasy.io/join/8da979> to participate

In ONE word, summarize your experience or thoughts on today's event?



Total words: 69

5/5

Anoka County –  
Economic & Workforce Development Summit



Nicole Swanson, Director  
Anoka County Job Training Center  
[nicole.swanson@anokacountymn.gov](mailto:nicole.swanson@anokacountymn.gov)



Greg Frahm-Gilles, Director  
Anoka County Economic Development  
[gregory.frahm@anokacountymn.gov](mailto:gregory.frahm@anokacountymn.gov)



Thank you!